1	IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
2	NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS EASTERN DIVISION
3	TECH PHARMACY SERVICES, LLC,) Docket No. 16 CV 10909
4	Plaintiff,) Chicago, Illinois
5	vs.) December 7, 2016) 9:00 o'clock a.m.
6	ALIXA RX LLC, et al.,)
7	Defendant.)
8	
9	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS - Motion BEFORE THE HONORABLE SAMUEL DER-YEGHIAYAN
10	ADDEAD ANGEG
11	APPEARANCES: For the Plaintiff: HOGAN LOVELLS US LLP BY: MS. JENNIFER A. FLEURY
13	700 Louisiana Suite 4300
14	Houston, Texas 77002
15	For the Defendant: GOULD AND RATNER LLP BY: MS. STEPHANIE A. PETERSMARCK
16	222 North LaSalle Street Suite 800
17	Chicago, Illinois 60601
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20	
21	Laura LaCien, CSR, RMR, CRR
22	Official Court Reporter 219 South Dearborn Street, Suite 1902
23	Chicago, Illinois 60604 (312) 408-5032
24	
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(The following proceedings were had in open court:)
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             COURTROOM DEPUTY: 16 C 10909, Tech Pharmacy versus
    Alixa.
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             MS. FLEURY: Good morning, your Honor. Jennifer
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    Fleury appearing on behalf of Tech Pharmacy.
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             THE COURT: Good morning. Go ahead.
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             MS. PETERSMARCK: Good morning, your Honor.
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    Stephanie Petersmarck on behalf of the non-party subpoena
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    respondent.
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             THE COURT: Okay. So the subpoena was issued for
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    who?
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             MS. PETERSMARCK: I'm sorry, sir?
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             THE COURT: Who was the subpoena issued for?
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             MS. PETERSMARCK: Plaintiff issued the subpoena to
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    my client Design Integrity.
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             THE COURT: Design Integrity. And Design Integrity
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    is a Chicago or Illinois --
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             MS. PETERSMARCK: A local small business, sir;
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    yes.
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             THE COURT: And now there is motion by plaintiff
    obviously for Design Integrity to comply with the subpoena,
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    right?
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             MS. FLEURY: That is correct, as well as a motion to
    transfer to the issuing court.
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             THE COURT: So then the second motion was to
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transfer, you know -- I think it's in Texas or something?
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             MS. FLEURY: In the Eastern District of Texas; yes,
    your Honor.
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             THE COURT: In the Eastern District of Texas.
                                                            Is
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    there a division or something or it's --
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             MS. FLEURY: The Eastern District, yes.
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             THE COURT: Eastern District of Texas. Do they like
    have a division?
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             MS. FLEURY: It's its own --
             THE COURT: Like Northern District of Illinois has
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    Western Division in Rockford, for example. Do they have any
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    subdivisions?
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             MS. FLEURY: I'm not aware of it.
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             THE COURT: Okay. Because a couple times when we
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    were dealing with a transfer, it turned out that that
    transferee district had certain divisions.
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             MS. FLEURY: I'm sorry. I apologize, your Honor. I
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    just had a slip of the brain. It's Sherman Division.
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             THE COURT: What?
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             MS. FLEURY: My colleague reminded me it's Sherman
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    Division.
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             THE COURT:
                         Sherman, okay. Thank you. Just for
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    clarity in case the motion is granted. I think you're doing
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    that under Rule 45?
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             MS. FLEURY: That's correct, your Honor.
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THE COURT: Okay. What's your view of the request
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    to transfer?
             MS. PETERSMARCK: Well, your Honor, we're strongly
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    opposed to it. We believe that the motion to transfer is
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    just more harassment from plaintiff trying to involve us in
    the games that they're playing with defendant. We had timely
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    served --
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             THE COURT: When you say "defendant," meaning your
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    client?
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             MS. PETERSMARCK: No, sir. The defendant --
             THE COURT: The defendant in the case in Texas?
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             MS. PETERSMARCK: Correct.
             THE COURT: What's your relationship to that
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    defendant?
             MS. PETERSMARCK: Well, they are seeking from us
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    documents among other things -- the majority of the documents
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    they seek from us are documents between us and defendant back
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    from -- I want to say it was 2006 although plaintiff's
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    counsel will correct me. I'm not as involved in the actual
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    details of their lawsuit. They are requesting from us
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    communications and agreements and papers that we exchanged as
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    sort of an assessor for some project that defendant was
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    performing with plaintiff back then, your Honor.
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             So our position has been and we responded timely
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    within the 14-day period with responses and objections to
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their terribly overly broad unduly burdensome discovery requests, subpoena, and we then were contacted and had been involved in many conferences with them. We've spent more than \$15,000 responding to these subpoenas. My client has spent more than 40 hours of his own time that he had to take away from running his business. Plaintiff is still unsatisfied.

Despite our valid objections on timely objections, we agreed with plaintiff that we would attempt to comply with their subpoena so long as they cover the costs. Instead they continue to harass us using eight attorneys now flying in -- two of them from Texas -- now trying to move us to Texas where they know we can't afford counsel.

Rule 45(d)(1) requires a party or attorney responsible for issuing and serving a subpoena must take reasonable steps to avoid imposing undue burden or expense on a person subject to subpoena. The court for the district where compliance is required -- that's this court -- must enforce this duty and impose an appropriate sanction which may include lost earnings and reasonable attorneys' fees on a party or attorney who has failed to comply under 45(d)(2)(B)(ii).

THE COURT: That's against you, right?

MS. PETERSMARCK: Pardon me, sir?

THE COURT: That's against you?

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MS. PETERSMARCK: No. It's against plaintiff.
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             THE COURT: Failure to reply or failure to comply.
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             MS. PETERSMARCK: No, sir. It's their failure to
    take reasonable steps to avoid imposing an undue burden --
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             THE COURT:
                         I see.
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             MS. PETERSMARCK: -- and expense on my client who is
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    not a party and is a local, a small business and is subject
    to this court's jurisdiction.
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 9
             THE COURT: Okay.
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             MS. PETERSMARCK: Not the jurisdiction of the
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    Eastern District of Texas.
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             THE COURT: Okay. Let me ask the simple question:
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    You have no interest in the case on the merits between
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    plaintiff and defendant in Texas, right?
             MS. PETERSMARCK: That is my understanding. I've
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    tried to get information from plaintiff as to whether or not
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    that this was really a fishing expedition where they're
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    trying to bring us in.
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             THE COURT: No. That's not my question.
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             My question is, you as the attorney for Design
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    Integrity, you said -- does Design Integrity have any
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    interest in the litigation between plaintiff and defendant in
23
    Texas?
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             MS. PETERSMARCK: My position is no, sir, based on
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    what I know.
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1 THE COURT: Okay. So you're not out there trying to 2 help the defendant, are you? 3 MS. PETERSMARCK: No, sir. THE COURT: Okay. I mean, you're not partners or 4 5 like affiliates? You just had business with them? 6 MS. PETERSMARCK: Correct. With business and, as 7 far as I understand it, with plaintiff as well perhaps. The deal was between plaintiff and defendant and we were brought 8 9 in as some sort of third-party --10 THE COURT: I understand. So counsel for plaintiff, what does the request for Design Integrity relate to? 11 12 MS. FLEURY: Two things, your Honor. Design 13 Integrity's role in the underlying litigation is two-fold. 14 First, Design Integrity was a third-party consultant engaged 15 by defendants -- engaged by actually another third party, Walgreens, in the underlying litigation to investigate and 16 conduct due diligence on the subject technology. 17 Your Honor, this is a patent case in the Eastern 18 19 District of Texas with 90 patent claims. It is -- it also 20 involves claims involving trade secret, the theft of my 21 client's trade secrets and fraud claims. The allegations 22 here --23 THE COURT: So the claims in a patent case, whatever they are, the information that Design Integrity has, it's 24 25 relevant to the case in Texas?

1 MS. FLEURY: That is correct. It is highly relevant 2 to the case in Texas.

THE COURT: Okay. It's not like fishing expedition that is being termed?

MS. FLEURY: Absolutely not, your Honor. And I'd like to explain the role Design Integrity plays in this suit because I think it will be helpful for evaluating both motions before your Honor.

To make it simple, Design Integrity was conducting due diligence on Tech Pharmacy. We've learned through the discovery process that Design Integrity authored a 200-page engineering report -- just as an example of something we've learned of recently, a 200-page engineering report on the subject technology. And then the second role that they played in the underlying litigation, they were engaged by defendants to perform engineering services in connection with defendant's attempts to build a rival technology.

So Design Integrity, while a non-party to this suit, possesses documents that are highly relevant to our client's claims in this suit. And so we seek first a motion to transfer to the issuing court -- in this case the Eastern District of Texas -- so that -- because that court has been highly engaged in case management, in rulings involving discovery as well as merits.

THE COURT: Okay. Has knowledge about the case and

the issues and the merits. But could you have filed with 1 2 that court the issue of the subpoena? MS. FLEURY: My understanding is that we needed to 3 file here. 4 5 THE COURT: Because the person who is subject to subpoena is within the jurisdiction of the court here, that's 6 7 why any enforcement of subpoenas are filed with the court that has jurisdiction over the subpoena receiver, right? 8 9 MS. FLEURY: Correct. THE COURT: So how does that work if I transfer the 10 motion for enforcement of the subpoena to the court in Texas? 11 12 Does that mean that jurisdiction is now vested in the court in Texas to enforce that subpoena on somebody who doesn't 13 14 live in Texas? MS. FLEURY: That's correct. The rules allow 15 explicitly for transfers even absent consent by the subpoena 16 17 third-party. And the rules say that -- for example, the 18 advisory committee notes on the rule explicitly mention case 19 management being one of the reasons and risk of inconsistent 20 rulings being another reason that provide that. 21 THE COURT: I understand those things but then 22 jurisdiction will be vested in the transferee court --23 MS. FLEURY: That's correct. 24 THE COURT: -- which is the original court of 25 jurisdiction over the case on the merits.

MS. FLEURY: Correct, your Honor.

THE COURT: Okay. Counsel for Design Integrity, you talk about all kinds of like expenses and harassment and why couldn't you provide the requested information instead of getting all kinds of litigation costs and everything else?

MS. PETERSMARCK: So we have tried to -- our biggest problem -- well, in addition to responding to the overbreadth, we have been working with plaintiffs, is that we were subject to a number of restrictive covenants, a number of the agreements they asked for. And, in fact, all of the information or the majority of the information that counsel just told you about is information they could get from defendants but instead they've imposed this undue burden on us.

We tried very hard from the day we got the subpoena to try and gather the information to understand what it means. We were first confronted with a number of restrictive covenants with non-parties and parties, including the defendant. We had to go and try and get permission from them to release the information. Some of the documents were not even allowed to mention the name they're so restrictive. So we've gone through all of that, finally gotten the permissions we could, produced those agreements and said to plaintiff, look, we've -- it's already taken us this much time and money, we will even subject to our objections give

this to you, all you have to do is agree to cover the costs. Instead of covering the costs of having us produce the information, they've spent all of this money filing a 76-page motion to compel; now a motion to transfer.

It is unduly burdensome, sir, for us to have to go to Texas. We simply can't do it. We also don't have the time and money to actually be doing what they're requiring us to do unless they agree to pay us for it, cover our costs, that is to say.

So that's all we're asking the Court to do is enforce 45(d)(1) as well as 45(d)(B)(ii). We will work with them as we've said we would do all along if they would agree to cover your substantial expense and avoid undue burden on my client.

THE COURT: Okay.

MS. FLEURY: If I may respond, your Honor, we have been willing to engage in a discussion of cost-sharing arrangements. We have explicitly said that we would enter into a cost-sharing arrangement. We've asked for over a month now for a concrete estimate of the costs of responding to this subpoena. They've had long enough now to provide us with an estimate of those costs and they have failed to do so.

I would also mention that again this process has been ongoing. We've had three concrete meet-and-confers. We

have been willing to do whatever we could to reduce any burden on Design Integrity. What's at issue here is from the day of -- from the first communication from counsel from Design Integrity, they have said we are unwilling to produce a single document until you agree, Tech Pharmacy, a blanket agreement to cover 100 percent of the costs no matter what those costs are and we understandably said that's not going to work, we need to enter into a reasonable agreement, how about we produce things incrementally.

Again, we've only been able to obtain from them 11 documents in this case and we know for a fact that they have -- and she's told us that there is -- substantial other responsive documents.

THE COURT: Okay. Counsel for Design Integrity, you cited the rule talking about undue burden. It looked like what counsel for plaintiff is saying that they offered to share that burden so that it's not an undue burden. Why wouldn't you do that?

MS. PETERSMARCK: What she's just explained to you, sir, is not accurate. What we did is we've already spent the 15,040 hours. Courts have found that 9,000 -- as little as 9,000 is already a substantial expense. What we did is say -- plaintiff said they'll cost-share but they won't agree to actually pay.

So what happened was I said, listen, here are the

documents that my client has been able to say might contain responsive information. He's never been a defendant before. He's never been a subpoena recipient respondent before. He can't tell you how much it's going to cost for him to review all of these gigs of data and this volume of hard copies, here's what we have, do you want to go in increments. Say, if you guys agree to cover our costs, we will go ahead and have someone come in and like do the volume, tell us, we'll go through search terms with you, we will try and work with you. They've — the most they said is we'll share costs but they won't say they'll cover the cost.

So our position, sir, is we've already spent what courts have found to be a substantial amount and spent a lot of time that we haven't been compensated for so we've already met that burden of having spent a substantial expense.

Anything they want after that they should agree to cover the cost in total. We will go step by step. If they say hey, no, you know, that's more than we think we want to go through, fine; we'll pull back.

I've also said if you want to identify for me -this is the first I'm hearing of a report -- if they wanted
to identify for us a report or some other small volume of
documents, we'd be happy to review them and provide them if
we thought they were responsive and not otherwise
objectionable.

We are not trying to be litigious. We actually want the opposite. We'd like the Court's assistance. We don't feel that plaintiff is being particularly candid, that they are trying to a harass us and use us as some sort of pawn in their litigation. We don't want to be involved. We will give them whatever we're required to give them but we cannot afford to keep playing these games.

THE COURT: You made some serious accusations against plaintiff and plaintiff's counsel and you better have the facts to support those accusations.

Right now, I'll give you ten minutes to go out there, chat with each other if you're willing to comply with cost-sharing and then you voluntarily do so. If not, I'm going to give each one of you a short briefing schedule like two days and then I will make a ruling on the motion to transfer because counsel for Design Integrity, you already answered the question whether the motion to transfer should be granted or not in part by saying that there is all kinds of restrictive covenants and that's why you don't want to produce and the underlying court might be the best position to rule on those issues so I'm just saying that, you know, without making a decision but there are many issues that come into play relating to a motion to transfer. One of them is what I just said.

So if you guys agree -- and let me point this out

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that not complying with a subpoena and add-in costs does not
create the undue burden that you say you already met by
spending $9,000. Otherwise, every recipient of a subpoena
might just delay complying with it, accumulate attorneys'
fees and say now the subpoena should be defeated because we
already met -- we spent money, this is unduly burdensome on
us.
         So I'm suggesting that reasonable minds can come to
an agreement to cost-sharing and to decide whether you could
comply with the subpoena with the cost-sharing. Otherwise,
I'll rule on the motion after I receive briefings from both
sides. Meaning in two days, you'll answer in writing
plaintiff's motion to transfer and then plaintiff within two
days thereafter files its reply. So today is December 7th.
By December 9th, you'll answer. By December 12th, plaintiff
replies. And I'll make a decision within the next one or two
days, so.
         Why don't you chat out there to see if you could
resolve it? I'll call the case back.
         MS. FLEURY: Thank you, your Honor.
         THE COURT:
                     Okay. Thank you.
    (WHEREUPON the Court turned his attention to other
matters on his call; after which the following proceedings
were had in open court:)
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COURTROOM DEPUTY: 16 CV 10909, Tech Pharmacy versus

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Alixa.
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             MS. FLEURY: Good morning, your Honor. I think
    we've made some progress.
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             THE COURT: Okay.
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             MS. FLEURY: We discussed --
             THE COURT: Can you identify again yourselves?
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             MS. FLEURY: My apologies, your Honor. I'm Jennifer
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    Fleury on behalf of Tech Pharmacy.
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             THE COURT:
                         Thank you.
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             MS. PETERSMARCK: This is Stephanie Petersmarck on
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    behalf of Design Integrity, the non-party subpoena
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    recipient.
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             THE COURT: Thank you. Go ahead, counsel. You may
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    continue.
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             MS. FLEURY: So the progress that we've made is we
    have discussed with counsel for Design Integrity that Tech
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    Pharmacy is willing to bear the costs of copying the paper
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    documents that she's identified today. She's talked about a
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    stack of ten to 12 inches of paper documents identified as
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    potentially responsive and we're going to send someone to
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    copy those documents at our cost.
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             THE COURT:
                         Okay.
             MS. FLEURY: We've also talked about in terms of the
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    e-mail custodians, that we'll identify five custodians and
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    ten search terms and we can identify those by Friday at the
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latest and she'll search e-mails in accordance with those terms and provide them with our vendor electronically and we'll bear the costs of printing and everything that happens subsequently.

The issue that remains is that counsel for Design

Integrity has voiced continuing concerns about restrictive

covenants and has said that she needs a motion to compel

those documents in order for us to kind of go along with this

agreement that we've reached.

MS. PETERSMARCK: Meaning that we need the Court to compel us to produce responsive documents because some of the parties to these restrictive covenants --

THE COURT: You need a court order?

MS. PETERSMARCK: Correct.

THE COURT: Okay. In order to ensure that the underlying case has the ability -- the underlying case judge to rule on the merits of the case, it would be appropriate for me to order compelling the production of those documents.

MS. FLEURY: Thank you, your Honor.

MS. PETERSMARCK: And then one other, sort of, related issue and that is that, you know, our position is that plaintiff should cover the costs of attorney review of these documents since my client can't do that. Plaintiff is not agreeing to do that. So whatever my client decides to do

as a result of that, our concern is that if he doesn't have attorney review or even if he did and there was some accidents, that if material that was not responsive to the subpoena and so isn't covered by your Honor's order today -- for example, for other non-parties that have nothing to do with this lawsuit gets caught up and produced inadvertently to plaintiff and that that material is subject to other restrictive covenants -- that we be allowed to claw it back or otherwise that we haven't violated whatever other restrictive covenants might exist with parties that aren't involved in this lawsuit.

THE COURT: Okay. I don't like conditional orders or things like that. Right now if attorney for Design Integrity reviews -- you're talking about reviewing the covenants, the restrictive covenant documents that you are aware of, right?

MS. PETERSMARCK: No. It's the others. My client because he often works for people in like sensitive situations, some material that's outside of this lawsuit might be intermingled with some of the stuff that we end up producing.

THE COURT: One second. I'm saying you should only produce things that relate to this case, not something outside parties' information. So it relates to communications between the defendant and related

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communications between Design Integrity.
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             So, counsel for plaintiff, you're seeking certain
    documents, correct?
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             MS. FLEURY: Correct, and --
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             THE COURT: Counsel for Design Integrity says some
    of those documents have, maybe, restrictive covenant, right?
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             MS. FLEURY: Correct.
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             THE COURT: Okay. I'm saying only those documents
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    that you requested should be produced regardless of the
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    restrictive covenant. That's all I'm saying. I'm not going
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    to agree to the production inadvertently of other documents.
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    That's up to counsel for Design Integrity to decide that the
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    right documents are produced. And if inadvertently something
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    is produced to counsel for plaintiff, maybe plaintiff's
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    counsel could return that immediately.
             MS. FLEURY: Absolutely, your Honor --
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             THE COURT: And then I could issue --
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             MS. FLEURY: -- in accordance with the rules.
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    Absolutely.
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             THE COURT: -- a protective order right now orally
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    that there's a protective order relating to any such
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    documents that inadvertently might have been produced. Would
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    that satisfy you?
             MS. PETERSMARCK:
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                               Thank you, sir.
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             THE COURT: Okay.
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MS. FLEURY: Just one more thing, your Honor, I wanted to make clear on the record, just that we've agreed -we've reached agreement with counsel for Design Integrity as to those paper documents that she's already identified. She's going to have someone look at those and produce all responsive documents from her subpoena. THE COURT: Correct. And the only issue left is whether there's going to be any attorney review and costs of attorney review. What's that about? MS. FLEURY: Again, our position, your Honor, is that we've agreed to bear the costs of printing, of sending a copier. We're not required to bear the costs of any internal review that they decide to do on their end. THE COURT: I think that's fair. I think that's a fair solution because the alternative could be a lot worse. I think, you know, Design Integrity should review its own documents and not be paid for by plaintiff's counsel. MS. FLEURY: Your Honor, one last issue. Could we set a date by which they will produce these documents? THE COURT: Oh, yeah. I'm going to -- I'm not dismissing -- I'm entering and continuing your motion to transfer and your motion for enforcement of the subpoena because now there is a potential resolution. Counsel for -- let me ask first counsel for plaintiff, when is your next hearing with the Texas court?

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mean, U.S. District Court in Texas?
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             MS. FLEURY: If you'll just give me a moment, your
    Honor, I have the scheduling order.
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             THE COURT: I just don't want to kind of delay any
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    case in Texas due to this, so.
             MS. FLEURY: Our discovery deadline currently is set
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    for March 17th.
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             THE COURT: Okay. We're good then. Counsel for
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    Design Integrity, when can you produce these documents?
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             MS. PETERSMARCK: The hard copy documents, sir, I
    believe we could probably get within two weeks; hopefully
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    shorter. I need to talk to my client. And then the
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    electronic documents, we'll be waiting to receive from
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    plaintiff's counsel the search terms and custodians.
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             THE COURT: Which you will do immediately, right?
             MS. FLEURY: We will do that by Friday, your
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    Honor.
             THE COURT: Okay. Then try to respond to those
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    since they're electronic.
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             MS. PETERSMARCK: So I'll say --
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             THE COURT: -- within the same period.
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             MS. PETERSMARCK: -- if we could have the same two
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    weeks --
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             THE COURT: Two weeks.
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             MS. PETERSMARCK: -- to at least identify to them
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what we're looking at and, you know, go make collection
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    efforts after that.
             THE COURT: Fair enough, fair enough. Within two
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    weeks. What I'll do is I'll set a status early January, like
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    January 12th, next status. By then, everything should have
    been resolved.
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             MS. PETERSMARCK: One other thing, your Honor.
             THE COURT:
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                         Sure.
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             MS. PETERSMARCK: I think we already talked about it
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    and counsel and I have agreed but some of the agreements that
    we've gotten from other parties with these restrictive
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    covenants is that we designate all of the documents with the
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    highest level of protection as permitted by the court; and if
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    that's still agreeable to plaintiff's counsel, I just want to
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    get on the record that we're going to be designating all the
    documents as -- I think it's --
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             MS. FLEURY: Attorneys' eyes only.
             THE COURT: Yes. I'm saying a protective order is
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    entered by me right now for those. Okay.
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             MS. FLEURY: And just to clarify, your Honor, the
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    January 12th status, there's a preliminary deadline in place
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    for two weeks, correct?
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             THE COURT: Two weeks starts today. By December
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    21st, they will produce you all the documents and the e-mail
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    information provided that you get to them within the next day
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or so, next couple days, the information.
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             MS. FLEURY: Thank you, your Honor.
             THE COURT: Okay. And then -- you know, let me do
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    it by December 23rd instead of 21st. Since you're going to
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    take couple days, we'll add the two-week period with a couple
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    days. December 23rd. Then we'll come back on January 12th.
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    If all is resolved by December 23rd, then what I would
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    suggest is you might just file a notice of, you know,
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    striking both motions so that we don't come on January 12th.
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    If you don't think it was resolved and you're not going to
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    file a motion to strike the two motions, then we'll come on
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    January 12th. I've entered and continued both motions.
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    I'll decide what to do on those on January 12th.
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             MS. FLEURY: Thank you, your Honor.
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             THE COURT: Okay. Any other questions?
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    you.
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             MS. PETERSMARCK:
                               Thank you, Judge.
             MS. FLEURY: Thank you very much.
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19
        (Which concluded the proceedings in the above-entitled
20
    matter.)
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CERTIFICATE I hereby certify that the foregoing is a transcript of proceedings before the Honorable Samuel Der-Yeghiayan on December 7, 2016. /s/Laura LaCien December 8, 2016 Laura LaCien Date Official Court Reporter